Water Quality Data

During the past year we have taken thousands of water samples in order to determine the presence of radioactive, biological, inorganic, volatile organic or synthetic organic contaminants. The table below shows only those contaminants that were detected in the water. Although all of the substances listed here are under the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL), we feel that it is important that you know exactly what was detected and how much of the substance was present in the water.

The state requires us to monitor for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations for these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES

Substance (units)	Year Sampled	MCLG (ideal level)	MCL (highest allowed)	Highest Average	Average Range Detected	Does it Meet Standard?	Probable / Typical sources
Chlorine (ppm)	2008	{4}	{4}	{2.03}	{1.04 - 2.18}	YES	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids {HAA} {ppb}	2008	N/A	60	45	30 - 45	YES	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes {TTHMs} {ppm}	2008	N/A	80	52	45 – 52	YES	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Nitrate {ppm}	2008	10	10	0.23	N/A	YES	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Total Organic Carbon {ppm}	2008	N/A	TT	2.1	1.7 – 2.6	YES	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity (NTU)	2008	N/A	TT	0.21	0.11 – 0.21	YES	Soil runoff
Turbidity (lowest monthly percent of samples meeting limit)	2008	N/A	TT	100%	N/A	Yes	Soil Runoff

Tap water samples were collected from 30 sample sites throughout the water system

Substance (units)	Year Sampled	Action Level	MCLG	Amount Detected (90th %tile)	Sites Above Action Level	Does it Meet Standard?	Probable / Typical sources
Lead {ppb}	2006	15	0	4	0	YES	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper {ppm}	2006	1.3	1.3	0.19	0	YES	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives

SECONDARY SUBSTANCES

Substance (units)	Year Sampled	SMCL	MCLG	Average	Average Range Detected	Does it Meet Standard?	Probable / Typical sources
Fluoride {ppm}	2008	2.0	N/A	0.78	0.05 – 1.15	YES	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which Promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer And aluminum factories

Our Source Water and Where It Comes From

The categories of potential pollution sources found in the Source Water Assessment are confined animal feed lots, NPDES storm water and mining, airports, hazardous waste facilities and mining, LAS permit holders and roads that cross over streams. A copy of the Source Water Assessment may be viewed on the City's Web site: www.carrollton-ga.gov, water quality. Click to view the Source Water Assessment.

The City of Carrollton draws its water from the Little Tallapoosa River.

Continuing Our Commitment

We are proud to once again present to you our annual water quality report. This edition covers all testing completed from January 1 through December 31, 2008. Over the years, we have dedicated ourselves to producing drinking water that meets and exceeds all state and federal drinking water standards. We continually strive to adopt new and better methods for delivering the best quality drinking water to you. As new challenges to drinking water safety emerge, we remain vigilant in meeting the challenges of source water protection, water conservation and community education and while continuing to serve the needs of all our water users.

Community Participation

The mayor and city council meet on the first Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in the City Public Safety Complex, 115 West Center Street, Carrollton, Georgia. Please feel free to participate in any of these meetings.

Questions

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Don North, Water Plant Superintendent, or Connie Nelms, Laboratory Analyst, at (770) 830 – 2021.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land, or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include the following:

- ✓ ***Microbial contaminants:*** such as viruses and bacteria which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
- ✓ ***Inorganic contaminants:*** such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- ✓ ***Pesticides and herbicides:*** which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff and residential uses.
- ✓ ***Organic chemical contaminants:*** including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff and septic systems.
- ✓ ***Radioactive contaminants:*** which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health and mining activities.

Lead in Drinking Water

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City of Carrollton is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and stops you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead .

Cryptosporidium in Drinking Water

Cryptosporidium is a microbial parasite found in surface water throughout the U.S. Although filtration removes *Cryptosporidium*, the most commonly used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100% removal. Current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks. However, immunocompromised people are at greater risk of developing life – threatening illness. We encourage immunocompromised individuals to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection. *Cryptosporidium* must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water.

Water Quality Monitoring – *Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amount of some impurities. The presence of these impurities does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about these impurities and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791)*

Definitions

- ✓ **AL-Action level**: the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
- ✓ **MCLG:** Maximum Contaminant Level Goal—the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health, MCLGs allow for a margin of safety
- ✓ **MCL:** Maximum Contaminant Level—the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- ✓ **MRDL:** Maximum Residual Disinfection Level—the highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water.
- ✓ **NTU:** Nephelometric Turbidity Units
- ✓ **ppm:** parts per million or milligrams per liter (corresponds to one minute in two years)
- ✓ **ppb:** parts per billion or milligrams per liter (corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years)
- ✓ **TT:** treatment technique- a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water
- ✓ **N/A**: Not Applicable